

Docket Number: 040258-0290685

Client Reference: EL01017CDC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



PATENT APPLICATION

SFW

In Re the Application of

KAORU MAEKAWA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2814

Application No.: 10/069,274

Examiner: Theresa Doan

Filed: June 11, 2002

Confirmation No.: 1701

For: FABRICATION PROCESS OF A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the Examiner's attention is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication, indicating that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

The references were cited in a Supplemental European Search Report, dated October 7, 2004, in a counterpart foreign application. Please note that U.S. 6,452,274 corresponds to JP 11-307633, and is submitted herewith in lieu of that reference.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: November 2, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/069,274
Filing Date	06/11/2002
First Named Inventor	KAORU MAEKAWA
Art Unit	2814
Examiner Name	Theresa Doan
Attorney Docket Number	040258-0290685

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A	EP	0 917 184 A2	05-19-1999	CHUNG et al.		
	B	EP	0 899 780 A2	03-03-1999	KOBAYASHI et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37. CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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